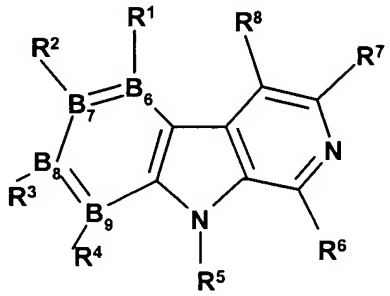
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in this application.

Claims 1-34 (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I



(I)

or a stereoisomeric form of a compound of formula I or a physiologically tolerable salt of a compound of formula I,

wherein B_6, B_7, B_8 and B_9 are ring atoms independently chosen from carbon atoms and nitrogen atoms and wherein B_6, B_7, B_8 and B_9 together are no more than two nitrogen atoms at the same time;

where the substituents R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^8 may be independently chosen from

1. hydrogen atom,
2. halogen,
3. -OH,
4. -CN,
5. sulfo,
6. $-NO_2$,
7. $-NH_2$,
8. alkoxy,
9. substituted amino,
10. -NH-C(O)-R^{15}, wherein R^{15} is a heterocycle having 5 to 7 ring atoms, an alkyl, an aryl, a substituted aryl or a substituted alkyl,
11. -COOH,
12. -O-R^{10}, wherein R^{10} is alkyl, substituted alkyl or aryl,
13. -C(O)-R^{12}, wherein R^{12} is alkyl, substituted alkyl or aryl,
14. -C(O)-O-R^{12}, wherein R^{12} is alkyl, substituted alkyl or aryl,

15. aryl,
16. -O-aryl,
17. substituted aryl,
18. -O-substituted aryl,
19. alkyl,
20. substituted alkyl,
21. $-CF_3$ or
22. $-CF_2-CF_3$,

provided that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^8 is not a hydrogen atom, and provided that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^8 is chosen from $-NH-C(O)-R^{15}$, wherein R^{15} is an aryl or a substituted aryl;

R^5 is
1. hydrogen atom,
2. alkyl,
3. alkyl radical, substituted at one or more positions by one or more of the radicals, halogen, amino or hydroxyl,
4. $-C(O)-R^9$ or
5. $-S(O)_2-R^9$, in which

R^9 is
- a) alkyl,
- b) alkyl radical, substituted at one or more positions by one or more of the radicals, halogen, amino or hydroxyl,
- c) aryl,
- d) aryl radical, substituted at one or more positions by one or more of the radicals, halogen, amino, or hydroxyl,
- e) $-NH_2$,
- f) alkoxy or
- g) substituted amino, and

R^6 and R^7 may be independently chosen from

1. hydrogen atom,
2. halogen,
3. -OH,
4. methyl,

5. -O-(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to tri- substituted by substituents independently chosen from
   - 5.1 aryl,
   - 5.2 halogen,
   - 5.3 -NO_2,
   - 5.4 sulfo,
   - 5.5 -COOH,
   - 5.6 -NH_2,
   - 5.7 -O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl or
   - 5.8 -OH, or
6. -$N(R^{13})_2$, wherein R^{13} is independently of one another chosen from hydrogen atom, aryl, -C(O)-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl or substituted aryl or alkyl, wherein said -C(O)-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- or tri- substituted independently of one another as defined under 5.1 to 5.8, or
   R^{13} together with the nitrogen atom to which it is bonded form a heterocycle having 5 to 7 ring atoms.

36. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I as claimed in claim 35, or a physiologically tolerable salt of a compound of formula I,

wherein

B_6, B_7, B_8, and B_9 are each a carbon atom,

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^8 are independently chosen from

1. hydrogen atom,
2. halogen,
3. -CN,
4. -COOH,
5. -NO_2,
6. -NH_2,
7. -O-(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta-substituted by substituents independently chosen from
   - 7.1 phenyl, which is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from halogen or –O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,
   - 7.2 halogen,

7.3 $-NH_2$,

7.4 -OH,

7.5 $-COOR^{16}$, wherein R^{16} is hydrogen atom or $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl,

7.6 $-NO_2$,

7.7 $-S(O)_y-R^{14}$, wherein y is zero, 1 or 2, R^{14} is $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl, phenyl, amino, or $N(R^{13})_2$, wherein the phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from

7.7.1 phenyl, which is unsubstituted or mono- to penta-substituted by substituents independently chosen from halogen or $-O-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl,

7.7.2 halogen,

7.7.3 $-NH_2$,

7.7.4 -OH,

7.7.5 $-COOR^{16}$, wherein R^{16} is hydrogen atom or $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl,

7.7.6 $-NO_2$,;

7.7.7 a radical selected from pyrrolidine, tetrahydropyridine, piperidine, piperazine, imidazoline, pyrazolidine, furan, morpholine, pyridine, pyridazine, pyrazine, oxolan, imidazoline, isoxazolidine, 2-isoxazoline, isothiazolidine, 2-isothiazoline, thiophene or thiomorpholine;

7.7.8 $-(C_3-C_7)$-cycloalkyl;

7.7.9 =O;

7.7.10 $-S(O)_y-R^{14A}$, wherein y is as defined above in 7.7 and R^{14A} is $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl, phenyl, amino, or $N(R^{13})_2$, wherein the phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta-substituted by substituents independently chosen from 7.7.1 to 7.7.9 or another -O-phenyl having its phenyl group either unsubstituted or substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.7.1 to 7.7.9, or

7.7.11 -O-phenyl, wherein phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.7.1 to 7.7.10 or another -O-phenyl having its phenyl group either unsubstituted or substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.7.1 to 7.7.10,

and further wherein for the $N(R^{13})_2$ substituent in paragraphs 7.7 and 7.7.10, R^{13} is independently of one another chosen from hydrogen atom, phenyl, -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, -C(O)-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, -C(O)-phenyl, -C(O)-NH-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, -C(O)-O-phenyl, -C(O)-NH-phenyl, -C(O)-O-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, -$S(O)_y$-R^{14A}, wherein R^{14A} and y are as defined above, and wherein the R^{13} alkyl or phenyl groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.7.1 to 7.7.11, or R^{13} together with the nitrogen atom to which it is bonded form a heterocycle having 5 to 7 ring atoms,

7.8 -O-phenyl, wherein phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta-substituted by substituents independently chosen from

7.8.1 those as defined under 7.1 to 7.7,

7.8.2 a radical selected from pyrrolidine, tetrahydropyridine, piperidine, piperazine, imidazoline, pyrazolidine, furan, morpholine, pyridine, pyridazine, pyrazine, oxolan, imidazoline, isoxazolidine, 2-isoxazoline, isothiazolidine, 2-isothiazoline, thiophene or thiomorpholine;

7.8.3 -(C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl

7.8.4 =O

7.8.5 -O-phenyl, wherein phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.7.1 to 7.7.11,

7.9 a radical selected from pyrrolidine, tetrahydropyridine, piperidine, piperazine, imidazoline, pyrazolidine, furan, morpholine, pyridine, pyridazine, pyrazine, oxolan, imidazoline, isoxazolidine, 2-isoxazoline, isothiazolidine, 2-isothiazoline, thiophene or thiomorpholine,

7.10 -(C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl or

7.11 =O,

8. -N(R^{13})$_2$, wherein R^{13} is as defined in 7.7,

9. -NH-C(O)-R^{15}, wherein R^{15} is

9.1 a radical selected from pyrrolidine, tetrahydropyridine, piperidine, piperazine, imidazoline, pyrazolidine, furan, pyridazine, pyrazine, oxolan, imidazoline, isoxazolidine, 2-isoxazoline, isothiazolidine, 2-isothiazoline, thiophene or thiomorpholine,
wherein said radical is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11, -CF_3, benzyl or by -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl is mono to tri-substituted independently of one another as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,

9.2 -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta-substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11 or by -O-(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,

9.3 -(C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl,

9.4 -N(R^{13})$_2$, wherein R^{13} is as defined in 7.7, or

9.5 phenyl, wherein phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11, by -O-(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, by –CN, by -CF_3, by -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl is mono to tri- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11, or by two substituents of the phenyl radical which form a dioxolan ring,

9.6 a radical selected from morpholine and pyridine
wherein said radical is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to

7.11, $-CF_3$, benzyl or by $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono to tri- substituted independently of one another as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,

10. $-S(O)y-R^{14}$, wherein R^{14} and y are as defined in 7.7,
11. $-C(O)-R^{12}$, wherein R^{12} is phenyl or $-(C_1-C_7)$-alkyl, wherein phenyl or alkyl are unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,
12. $-C(O)-O-R^{12}$, wherein R^{12} is phenyl or $-(C_1-C_7)$-alkyl, wherein phenyl or alkyl are unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,
13. $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,
14. $-O-(C_1-C_6)$-alkyl-$O-(C_1-C_6)$-alkyl,
15. $-O-(C_0-C_4)$-alkyl-(C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl,
16. $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl-$N(R^{13})_2$, wherein R^{13} is as defined in 7.7
17. $-CF_3$ or
18. $-CF_2-CF_3$,

provided that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^8 is not a hydrogen atom,

R^5 is 1. hydrogen atom,

2. $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.4,
3. $-C(O)-R^9$, wherein R^9 is

   $-NH_2$, $-(C_1-C_{10})$-alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta-substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.4, or $-N(R^{13})_2$, wherein R^{13} is as defined in 7.7, or
4. $-S(O)_2-R^9$, wherein R^9 is as defined in 3 immediately above,

or R^4 and R^5 together with the atom to which they are bonded form a heterocycle,

or R^3 and R^5 together with the atom to which they are bonded form a heterocycle containing an additional oxygen atom in the ring and

R^6 and R^7 independently of one another are chosen from hydrogen atom or methyl.

37. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 36, wherein

B_6, B_7, B_8, and B_9 are each a carbon atom,

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 independently of one another are hydrogen atom, halogen, cyano, nitro, amino, -O-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, phenyl, -O-phenyl, -CF_2-CF_3, -CF_3, N(R^{13})$_2$,

wherein R^{13} is independently of one another chosen from hydrogen atom, -(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, phenyl, -C(O)-phenyl, -C(O)-pyridyl, -C(O)-NH-phenyl, -C(O)-O-phenyl, -C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, -C(O)-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl or -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein alkyl, pyridyl or phenyl are unsubstituted or mono- to tri- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11, or R^{13} together with nitrogen atom to which it is bonded form a heterocycle having 5 to 7 ring atoms,

-S(O)$_y$-R^{14},

wherein y is zero, 1 or 2, and R^{14} is -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, phenyl, which phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted as defined for substituents under 7.1 to 7.11, amino or -N(R^{13})$_2$,

wherein R^{13} is independently of one another chosen from hydrogen atom,-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl-C(O)-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, -C(O)-phenyl, C(O)-pyridyl, -C(O)-NH-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, -C(O)-O-phenyl, -C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl or -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein each alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to tri-substituted independently of one another as defined under 7.1 to 7.11, or R^{13} together with nitrogen atom to which it is bonded form a heterocycle having 5 to 7 ring atoms, or

-C(O)-O-R^{12}, wherein R^{12} is phenyl or -(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, wherein said phenyl or alkyl are unsubstituted or mono- to penta- substituted by substituents independently chosen from those as defined under 7.1 to 7.11,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 independently of one another are hydrogen atom, methyl, amino, -N(R^{13})$_2$, wherein R^{13} is independently of one another chosen from

hydrogen atom,-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl-C(O)-(C_1-C_7)-alkyl, -C(O)-phenyl, C(O)-pyridyl, -C(O)-NH-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, -C(O)-O-phenyl, -C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl or -(C_1-C_{10})-alkyl, wherein pyridyl, alkyl or phenyl

are unsubstituted or mono- to tri- substituted independently of one another as defined under 7.1 to 7.11, or

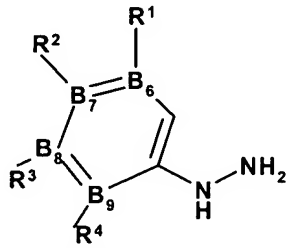
R^{13} together with nitrogen atom to which it is bonded form a heterocycle having 5 to 7 ring atoms,

provided that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^8 is not a hydrogen atom.

Claims 38-41 (Canceled)

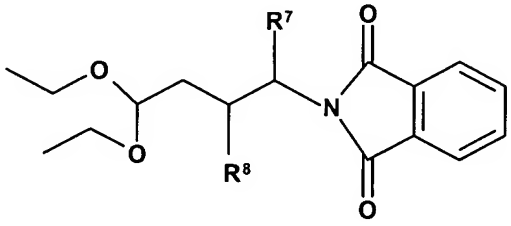
42. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 35, which comprises

reacting a compound of formula III



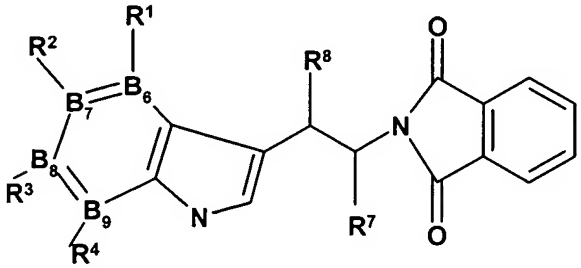
(III)

in which R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, B_6, B_7, B_8 and B_9 are each as defined in formula I, with a compound of the formula IV,



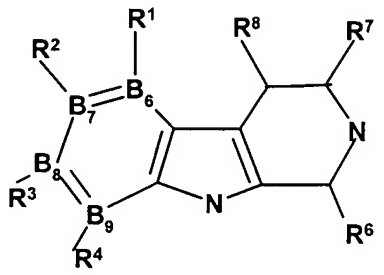
(IV)

in the presence of a acid, to yield a compound of the formula V



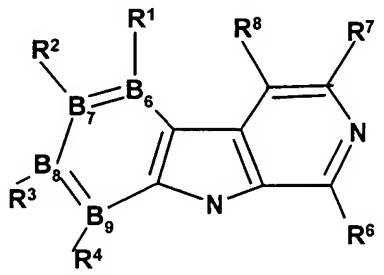
(V)

which is reacted with hydrazine hydrate and later with R^6CHO or formaldehyde (R^6 is H) to give a compound of formula VI



(VI)

and then oxidizing the compound of formula VI to give a compound of the formula VII,



(VII)

where R^1 to R^4, R^6 to R^8 and B_6 to B_9 are as defined in formula I, to give a compound of formula I.

43. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 42, wherein a compound of the formula VII is reacted with a compound of the formula VIII

$$Y\text{-}R^5 \quad \text{(VIII)}$$

where Y is halogen or –OH and R^5 is as defined in formula I, to give a compound of the formula I.

44. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 42, which further comprises resolving a compound of the formula I formed by the process of claim 42, which on account of its chemical structure occurs in enantiomeric forms, into the pure enantiomers by salt formation with enantiomerically pure acids or bases, chromatography on chiral stationary phases or derivatization by means of chiral enantiomerically pure compounds, separation of the diastereomers thus obtained, and removal of the chiral auxiliary groups.

45. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 44, wherein the chiral enantiomerically pure compounds are amino acids.

46. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 43, which further comprises resolving a compound of the formula I formed by the process of claim 43, which on account of its chemical structure occurs in enantiomeric forms, into the pure enantiomers by salt formation with enantiomerically pure acids or bases, chromatography on chiral stationary phases or derivatization by means of chiral enantiomerically pure, separation of the diastereomers thus obtained, and removal of the chiral auxiliary groups.

47. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 46, wherein the chiral enantiomerically pure compounds are amino acids.

48. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 42, which further comprises isolating a compound of the formula I prepared by the process of claim 42, either in free form or, in the case of the presence of acidic or basic groups, converting it into a physiologically tolerable salt.

49. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 43, which further comprises isolating a compound of the formula I prepared by the process of claim 43, either in free form or, in the case of the presence of acidic or basic groups, converting it into a physiologically tolerable salt.

50. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 44, which further comprises isolating a compound of the formula I prepared by the process of claim 44, either in free form or, in the case of the presence of acidic or basic groups, converting it into a physiologically tolerable salt.

51. (Previously Presented) A composition which comprises an efficacious amount of at least one compound chosen from the compounds of formula I as claimed in claim 35, a physiologically tolerable salt of the compounds of the formula I or an optionally stereoisomeric form of the compounds of the formula I, together with at least one pharmaceutically suitable and physiologically tolerable excipient, additive, active compound or auxiliary.

52. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) A method for treating a patient experiencing at least one disorder involving an increased activity of I_kB kinase, the method comprising administering to the patient an efficacious amount of at least one compound chosen from a compound of formula I as set forth in claim 35, a stereoisomeric form of a compound of the formula I, or a physiologically tolerable salt of a compound of the formula I.

53. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 52, wherein the at least one disorder is joint inflammation, acute synovitis, tuberculosis, atherosclerosis, muscle degeneration, cachexia, Reiter's syndrome, endotoxaemia, sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic shock, gram negative sepsis, gout, toxic shock syndrome, chronic pulmonary inflammatory diseases, silicosis, pulmonary sarcoidosis, bone resorption diseases, reperfusion injury, carcinoses, leukemia, sarcomas, lymph node tumors, skin carcinoses, lymphoma, apoptosis, graft versus host reaction, allograft rejection, leprosy, infections, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); AIDS related complex, cachexia secondary to infection or malignancy; cachexia secondary to acquired immune deficiency syndrome or to cancer; keloid and scar tissue formation; pyresis; diabetes; inflammatory bowel diseases; diseases of or injury to the brain in which over-expression of TNFα has been implicated, psoriasis, Alzheimer's disease, carcinomatous disorders, cardiac infarct, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and acute respiratory distress syndrome.

54. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 53, wherein the disorder is a carcinomatous disorder and the at least one compound effects potentiation of the cytotoxic therapies used to treat the carcinomatous disorder.

55. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 52, wherein the disorder is a joint inflammation disorder chosen from arthritis and arthritic conditions.

56. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 55, wherein the disorder is arthritis or arthritic conditions chosen from rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, gouty arthritis, traumatic arthritis, rubella arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and osteoarthritis.

57. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 52, wherein the disorder is chronic pulmonary inflammatory diseases chosen from asthma and adult respiratory distress syndrome.

58. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 52, wherein the disorder is an infection chosen from viral infections, parasitic infections, and yeast and fungal infections.

59. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 58, wherein the disorder is a viral infection chosen from HIV, cytomegalovirus, influenza, adenovirus and the Herpes group of viruses.

60. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 52, wherein the disorder is malaria.

61. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 60, wherein the malaria is cerebral malaria.

62. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 52, wherein the disorder is a yeast infection, fungal infection, or fever and myalgias due to infection.

63. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 62, wherein the fungal infection is fungal meningitis.

64. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 52, wherein the disorder is an inflammatory bowel disease chosen from Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

65. (Previously Presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 52, wherein the disorder is a disease of or injury to the brain chosen from multiple sclerosis or head trauma.

Claims 66-69 (Canceled)